

Career CIA officer expected to be named to No. 2 spot

Associated Press

WASHINGTON - President Ronald Reagan is expected to name a career intelligence officer, John McMahon, to replace Adm. Bobby R. Inman as deputy CIA director, Administration sources said yesterday.

Sources who asked not to be identified said the announcement of Reagan's choice of McMahon, a 31-year veteran of the agency, could come as early as today.

First word that a decision had been made came from Sen. Henry Jackson (D-Wash.), a member of the Senate Intelligence Committee.

Jackson said on CBS-TV's "Face the Nation" that a veteran career official would be named.

McMahon, 52, is now the No. 3 man in the CIA, holding the post of executive director. Previously, he has run the agency's National Foreign Assessments Center, which produces intelligence estimates for government. During the Carter Administration, he was deputy director for operations, in charge of the agency's clandestine spy network.

McMahon also has experience in the CIA's administrative division and in its scientific and technical division.

Inman's Job Expected to Go to CIA's No. 3 Man

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The sources, who asked not to be identified, said the announcement of Reagan's choice of McMahon, a 31-year veteran of the agency, could come as early as today.

The first word that a decision had been made came Sunday from Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.), a member of the Senate Intelligence Committee. Jackson said on CBS-TV's "Face the Nation" that a veteran career official would be named. Inman resigned Wednesday amid reports of policy disputes with the Reagan Administration.

Although Jackson would not identify Reagan's choice by name, he said, "I think he is a first-rate professional and will help the morale within the professional service, because he has been selected out of the professional service."

McMahon, 52, is now the CIA's executive director, the agency's No. 3 man. Previously, he ran the CIA's National Foreign Assessments Center, which produces intelligence estimates for the government. During the Jimmy Carter Administration, he was deputy director for operations, in charge of the agency's spy network.

McMahon also has experience in the agency's administrative division and in its scientific and technical division.

Intelligence community sources say McMahon is a

top-notch administrator with broad experience, and one source contended there had never been a deputy director with as broad a background as McMahon.

Traditionally, one of the two top jobs in the CIA has gone to a military officer but that has not always been the case.

As recently as Friday, White House officials had indicated that an announcement of a successor for Inman was a week to 10 days away. Several other members of the Senate Intelligence Committee expressed surprise at Jackson's remarks, saying they, too, thought an announcement was not imminent.

Sen. Richard G. Lugar (R-Ind.), one of the President Reagan's strongest supporters, said Friday that the intelligence panel wanted a role in picking a successor to Inman, who had been very popular with the committee.

However, Jackson did not say specifically whether he, and his colleagues on the intelligence committee had been consulted about Inman's replacement.

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CIA veteran chosen deputy, Jackson says

From Tribune Wire Services

WASHINGTON—A veteran professional in the CIA has been selected to succeed Adm. Bobby R. Inman as deputy director, Sen. Henry Jackson (D., Wash.) said Sunday. He described Inman's replacement as a "career man" who has been in the service 31 years, but said he had agreed not to identify Inman's replacement prior to the announcement by the Reagan administration. Sources have said the top contender is the agency's No. 3 man, John McMahon, 52, now executive director. Other sources have mentioned Gen. Lew Allen, a former chief of the National Security Agency, but Jackson's description appeared to rule out a military man.